



NEWSLETTER



1125 Oilfield Ave
Shelby, MT 59474

(406) 434-5234 phone
(406) 434-2718 fax
www.fsa.usda.gov/mt

Hours

Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

County Committee

Members:

Connie Alme
Tim Fenger
Rob Skryja

Next COC Meeting:

**May 5, 2011
at 9:00 A.M.**

FSA Office Staff:

Robert Hermance, Ext 107
Lynda Fretheim, Ext 104
Rogene Halver, Ext 103
Carla McNamara, Ext 101
Dale White, Ext 106
Farm Loans call:
(406) 873-5618
Ed Daugherty, Ext 106
Lacy Roberts, Ext 110
Debbie Duke, Ext 105

NRCS Office Staff:

Misty Vermulm, Ext 110
Amy Kaiser, Ext 108
Stacy Thornbrugh, Ext 115

Conservation District

Board:

Terry Tomsheck
Steve Ahrens
Bob Pace
Roger Smedsrud
Dick Steinbacher
Willie Wilson
Bob Aklestad
Marlene Moon, Ext 113

Reasonable Accommodations:

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in any FSA programs should contact the County Executive Director at the FSA Office or the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339.

TOOLE COUNTY CONNECTION

**FARM SERVICE AGENCY, NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION SERVICE,
CONSERVATION DISTRICT & EXTENSION SERVICE**

APRIL 2011

2011 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) Signup Underway, Deadline is June 1

Enrollment for the 2011 Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) has begun and will continue through **June 1, 2011**. The Farm Service Agency (FSA) urges producers to make use of the eDCP automated website to sign up, or producers can visit the FSA office to complete their 2011 DCP contract. Eligible producers receive direct payments at rates established by statute regardless of market prices. FSA began to issue advance direct payments beginning Dec. 1, 2010.

2011 Average Crop Revenue Election Program (ACRE) Option: June 1 Signup deadline

The Average Crop Revenue Election Program (ACRE) provides a safety net based on state revenue losses and acts in place of the price-based safety net of counter-cyclical payments under DCP. A farm's payment is based on a revenue guarantee calculated using a 5-year average state yield and the most recent 2-year national price for each eligible commodity. The June 1, 2011 deadline is mandatory for all ACRE and DCP participants. FSA will not accept late-filed applications. An ACRE payment is issued when both the state and the farm have incurred a revenue loss. In exchange for participating in ACRE, a farm's direct payment is reduced by 20 percent, and marketing assistance loan rates are reduced by 30 percent. The decision to enroll in the ACRE Program is irrevocable. The owner of the farm and all producers on the farm must agree to enroll in ACRE. Once enrolled, the farm shall be enrolled for that initial crop year and will remain in ACRE through the 2012 crop year.



2011 CERTIFICATION MAPS ARE READY FOR PRODUCERS TO PICK UP AT THE OFFICE!

2011 Acreage Reports Filing Deadline is July 15

County office has the 2011 compliance map packets together for acreage reporting purposes. The compliance maps are made available at the FSA county office for producers to pick up. Please follow the instructions closely for completing the maps to ensure that all the cropland and rangeland is reported if required for program eligibility. The deadline to file and sign the acreage report is July 15, 2011, however we are asking that you return them by June 15 to allow us time to get them all into the system and ready for your signature by July 15th.

Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments Program (SURE) Signup for 2009 Crop Year Ends July 29

Signup for the 2009 SURE program (the old disaster programs) began on Jan. 10, 2011 and will end on **July 29, 2011**. To be eligible for SURE a producer in *Toole County* must have at least a 10 percent production loss on a crop of economic significance and a policy or plan of insurance under the Federal Crop Insurance Act or the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for all economically significant crops. Producers considered socially disadvantaged, a beginning farmer or rancher, or a limited resource farmer may be eligible for SURE without a policy or plan of insurance or NAP coverage.

Producers that have a farming interest physically located in a county that was declared a primary disaster county by the Agriculture Secretary under a Secretarial Disaster Designation or a contiguous county and meet the above criteria are eligible for SURE. In the absence of the Secretarial Disaster Designation producers may be eligible if they suffer at least a 50% production loss on the entire SURE farm due to a natural disaster.

For more information, contact the county office.

Sign up Now for Marias River Float Trip and Weed Tour!

Registration forms are now available to sign up for a float trip on the Marias River to learn more about noxious weed management and watershed conservation problems. The Marias River Basin Weed Control Association and Marias River Watershed Group are hosting the trip on Tuesday, July 26. This year's float will take us from Sanford Park below Tiber Dam, downstream past the historic Pugsley Bridge. Participants will meet at Sanford Park, below Tiber Dam at 9:30 a.m.

Pre-registration is required and forms can be picked up at the MSU Extension Offices in Toole, Glacier, Liberty, Hill, Chouteau and Pondera counties. There is a \$20.00 registration fee, which includes rafts, life jackets, a barbeque supper, educational materials and bus transportation back to Sanford Park at the end of the float. The registration deadline is July 5th and space is limited, so register early!

There will be several educational speakers covering biological, mechanical and chemical weed control options as well as bank stabilization and maintaining healthy river systems. The lower Marias Russian olive removal project will be shown, and a weed seedling ID contest will test the knowledge of participants, with some wonderful awards for the winners. The day will wrap up with a barbeque dinner and door prizes when we return to Sanford Park.

Be sure to bring a sack lunch, sunscreen, bug spray and water friendly clothing. We will be floating rain or shine, so be prepared for whatever Mother Nature has in mind. Private and commercial pesticide applicator credits will be available. If you have questions or to get a registration form, please contact the Toole County Extension office at 424-8350. Space is limited, so sign up soon for an adventure on the Hi-line!

The Montana State University Extension is an ADA/EO/AA/Veteran's Preference Employer and Provider of Educational Outreach.



Spring Grazing on Conservation Reserve Program Acres

The 2011 grazing period for managed grazing of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres is March 15th through May 14th. CRP participants who want to graze their CRP contracts this spring must sign up at the FSA county office. Grazing cannot begin until the participant (s) receives written approval from the local FSA county committee or its designee. Spring managed grazing must end before May 15th, which is the start of Montana's Primary Nesting and Broodrearing Season.

Participants may graze CRP acres based on the rotation period of once every three years and other limitations that are included in their Conservation Plan of Operations. Producers wishing to graze CRP acres must first receive written notification of approval from the FSA county committee before managed grazing can begin. Livestock producers, who rent or lease acreage from the CRP participant, shall sign a statement agreeing not to sublease the CRP acreage and receive notification of approval from the FSA county committee, a copy of which they should provide to the CRP participant. All livestock must be removed from the CRP acreage when the calculated AUM's are utilized, but no later than May 14th for spring grazing. CRP participants will be assessed a payment reduction for managed grazing which is calculated by taking the number of acres grazed, times the CRP per acre annual rental payment, times 25 percent.

Farming Operation Changes

If you have bought or sold land, or if you have added or dropped rented land from your operation, make sure you report the changes to the office as soon as possible. You need to provide a copy of your deed or recorded land contract for purchased property. Failure to maintain accurate records with FSA on all land you have an interest in can lead to possible program ineligibility and penalties. Making the record changes now will save you time in the spring. Update signature authorization when changes in the operation occur. Please notify the County Office as soon as possible upon the death of a participant, landowner, or member of a participating entity, as it may be necessary to modify contracts for the current year or complete

updated eligibility forms. Producers are reminded to contact the office of a change in operations on a farm so that records can be kept current and accurate.

Livestock Indemnity Program

The Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) provides assistance to eligible livestock owners and contract growers for eligible livestock deaths in excess of normal mortality due to adverse weather including losses due to floods, blizzards, disease, wildfires, extreme heat, and extreme cold. For 2011 losses, producers must file a notice of loss the earlier of either 30 calendar days of when the loss of livestock was apparent to the participant or October 31, 2011. A notice of loss can be reported to the office by phone, fax, or e-mail. To be considered eligible, livestock deaths must have died before October 1, 2011, and in the calendar year for which benefits are being requested. An Application for Payment may be filed at any time in 2011, but must be filed no later than 30 calendar days after the end of the calendar year in which the loss of livestock occurred.

Please contact the county office for additional eligibility requirements. A list of eligible livestock is available at www.fsa.usda.gov/mt.

Actively Engaged

USDA has amended the requirements of being 'actively engaged' in farming. These rules apply to eligibility for payments under the Direct and Counter-cyclical Program (DCP) or Average Crop Revenue Election (ACRE).

Normally the stockholder or a member of a legal entity **must** make contributions of active personal labor and/or active personal management for the farming operation. The contributions are to be performed on regular basis, must be identifiable, and separate from the contributions of others.

The exception to this rule for a stockholder or member of a legal entity only occurs when both of the following apply:

At least half of the interest in the legal entity is held by stockholders or members who are providing active personal labor or active personal management; and

The total direct payments received by the legal entity and each of the members can't exceed \$40,000.

Lending a Hand for Conservation Efforts

By: Amy Kaiser, Soil Conservation Technician

For over 75 years, the Natural Resources Conservation Service has been lending a hand to local farmers and ranchers for their conservation efforts on privately owned land. If you didn't already know, the NRCS is a federally funded agency and regulated by environmental laws and legislation including the 1995-2008 Farm Bills, Highly Erodible Lands/Wetland Conservation, Clean Water Act, among many others. Those involved in agriculture can voluntarily apply for financial and technical assistance to conserve natural resources on privately owned land. Pastureland, crop land, grazing land, hay land, animal feeding operations, and wildlife are common Toole County Land Uses which utilize conservation programs to improve natural resources.

Conservation programs, authorized by the current 2008 Farm Bill, are made available to producers to identify different resource concerns. The most utilized programs in Toole County include the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, the Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program, and the Conservation Stewardship Program. All of these programs offer engineering, vegetative and management practices to control conservation efforts toward soil, water, air, plants, animals, humans and energy resources.

EQIP, Environmental Quality Incentives Program, can assist with developing Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans for animal feeding operations, assist in the planning of Precision Ag methods for nutrient application in cropland, support development of better utilization of range land through Prescribed Grazing plans, or you may choose from the many other conservation options available with this program. EQIP also allows operators to utilize a qualified Technical Service Provider for assistance with planning, designing, and implementation of conservation practices.

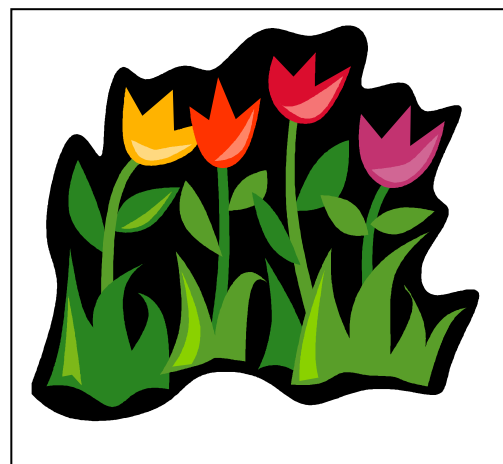
The Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP) offers opportunities to producers who want to develop and improve wildlife habitat on agricultural

land. This may include protection, restoration, and development of declining or important aquatic wildlife species' habitat. WHIP also promotes conservation plans to reduce the impact to fish and wildlife habitat from invasive species.

The Conservation Stewardship Program (CStP) encourages producers to address resource concerns in a comprehensive manner by undertaking additional conservation activities. This also includes improving, maintaining, and managing existing conservation activities.

Funding for these incentive programs originates from the taxpayers' critical federal investments. These investments support clean air, clean and abundant water, productive soils, and healthy plant and animal communities. To apply for any of these incentive programs you must meet minimum eligibility qualifications which may include showing proof for control of land during the length of the agricultural practice, providing tax forms for present years showing an agricultural income, and meeting conservation resource concerns. All information that is submitted to the USDA is confidential and protected under the Privacy Act of 1974.

Our mission statement is **HELPING PEOPLE HELP THE LAND**. Our vision is Productive Lands – Healthy Environment. The NRCS strives to protect private agricultural land for future generations. A shared goal by many of the farmers and ranchers we work with. We would like to continue to lend a hand, for more information about programs that can assist you, visit <http://www.mt.nrcs.usda.gov/about/>



Current USDA Settlements and Non-Judicial Claims Process:

Native American Farmers & Ranchers Settlement Agreement (Keepseagle)

If you are a Native American who was denied a Farm Loan or Loan Servicing by the USDA between Jan. 1, 1981 and Nov. 24, 1999, you may be eligible for benefits from a Class Action Settlement. To request a Claims Package or for more information, call 1-888-233-5506 or visit www.IndianFarmClass.com.

Non-Judicial Claims Process for Hispanic & Women Farmers & Ranchers

If you believe that USDA improperly denied farm loan benefits to you between 1981 and 2000 because you are Hispanic, or because you are female, you may be eligible to apply for compensation. To register your name to receive a claims packet, call the Farmer and Rancher Call Center at 1-888-508-4429 or visit: www.farmerclaims.gov.

African American Farmers Settlement Agreement (Pigford II)

If you are an African-American farmer who (a) submitted a request to file a late claim on or between Oct. 13, 1999 and June 18, 2008, under the 1999 USDA settlement in the earlier class action known as Pigford v. Glickman ("Pigford"), and (b) who did not receive a merits determination of their discrimination claim, you may be eligible for benefits from a Class Action Settlement. For more information, call 1-866-950-5547 or 1-866-472-7826 or visit www.blackfarmercase.com.

CRP General Signup 41 set for March 14 to April 15, 2011

General signup for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) began on March 14, 2011, and continues through April 15, 2011. During the signup period, Montana farmers and ranchers may offer eligible land for CRP's competitive general signup at their county Farm Service Agency (FSA) office. Through the 2008 Farm Bill, CRP is authorized for a maximum enrollment of 32 million acres. USDA estimates that contracts on 3.3 million to 6.5 million acres are scheduled to expire annually between now and 2014. Land currently not enrolled in CRP may be offered in this signup provided all eligibility requirements are met. Additionally, current CRP participants with contracts expiring this fall may make new contract offers. Contracts awarded under this signup are scheduled to become effective Oct. 1, 2011. In Montana, 2.9 million acres of the state's 18,721,501 cropland acres are actively enrolled in the CRP program. Of the state's active CRP acres; 498,661 acres are scheduled to expire on Sept. 30, 2011; 696,523 acres on Sept. 30, 2012 and 638,841 acres on Sept. 30, 2013. As administrator of the CRP Program, FSA will evaluate and rank eligible CRP offers using an Environmental Benefits Index (EBI) that assists in calculating the environmental benefits to be gained from the contract. The EBI consists of five environmental factors (wildlife, water, soil, air and enduring benefits). Cost factors are also entered into the equation. In addition to the general sign-up, FSA's CRP Continuous Sign-up Program is ongoing. Continuous acres represent the most environmentally desirable and sensitive land. For more info, visit www.fsa.usda.gov and view Conservation Programs.

- Locusts, or swarming grasshoppers, may eat up to 80,000 tons of grain and other vegetation in a day.
- Humans have 792 distinct muscles, grasshoppers have 900, and caterpillars may have as many as 4,000 separate muscles.
- An average man can pull about 0.86 times his own weight, but a leaf beetle (*Donacia*) can pull 42.7 times its own weight. Horses pull 0.5 times it's own weight, ants pull 52 times their weight (comparable to a human pulling 4.5 tons).
- The coffin fly maintains itself for many generations in human bodies buried in coffins.
- The ant has the largest brain in the animal kingdom, in proportion to its size.

Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food

By: Marlene Moon, Conservation District Administrator

It is a biological fact that we all need food. Let's apply this fact to our Montana State Legislature. They need a lot of food. There are 150 members of the Montana Legislature. If each member followed the recommended diet outlined in the new USDA Food Pyramid, over the 90 days of the legislative session they would collectively consume:

- 94,500 ounces of grain (about half of that should be whole grain)
- 54,000 cups of vegetables
- 27,000 cups of fruit
- 81,000 ounces (that's 5,062 pounds) of beef and beans
- 81,000 teaspoons of oil

On any given day when the Montana Legislature is in session there are as many as a thousand people in the State Capitol Building. The amount of food provided in the Mountain Moose Deli, located in the basement of the Capitol building, and a snack bar on the third floor, needs to be enough to feed as many as 600 of those folks on any given day. That doesn't take into consideration the amount of food consumed in Helena away from the Capitol building by Legislators, workers, visitors and others.

Food is essential. The United States Department of Agriculture is leading an effort to develop a national conversation about food and agriculture and the importance of local and regional food systems. By developing our local and regional food systems, we can spur job growth in our communities and ultimately strengthen American agriculture.

Know your farmer, know your food. A healthy farm is a part of a healthy community. The Natural Resource Partnership of Montana encourages sustainable agricultural practices and systems so that Montana's natural resources - our soil, water, and air - will be available for generations to come. The Partnership works daily to help today's producers conserve and protect those resources. It is interrelated - support local farmers, strengthen our communities, promote healthy eating, and protect our natural resources.

The next time you take a bite out of that

burger think for a moment about the ranchers that provided the meat, the farmers that provided the wheat for the bun, the tomato for the ketchup, the vegetable grower providing the pickles and above all the natural resources we need to conserve to keep quality food available to all.

Filing a Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) Notice-of-Loss

To qualify for assistance under NAP, production losses or prevented planting must have occurred as a result of an eligible cause of loss. An eligible cause of loss is any of the following: damaging weather, such as drought, freeze, hail, excessive moisture, or excessive wind; or adverse natural occurrences, such as earthquake or flood; or a condition related to damaging weather or an adverse natural occurrence, such as excessive heat, disease or insect infestation. Wildlife damage and weeds are **not** considered eligible causes of loss under NAP.

A notice of loss must be provided for prevented planting claims, within 15 calendar days after the final planting date. For low yield claims, the earlier of the following: 15 calendar days after the damaging weather or disaster occurrence or date damage to the specific crop acreage is apparent to the producer for yield losses; or 15 calendar days after the normal harvest date. If a Notice-of-Loss is filed after the established final planting date and the intent is to reseed to another crop intended for harvest, such as barley for grain, which is covered under crop insurance, a NAP payment cannot be received on the original failed crop.

Montana is not a double cropping state. If the intent is to destroy the crop, summer fallow it, or reseed to another crop **not** intended for harvest, representative strips must be left in the field so that a loss adjuster can be sent out closer to normal harvest time to appraise the original seeded crop. In this situation, the original seeded crop would still be eligible for a payment.

July 15, 2011 is the final date for NAP participants to submit crop year 2010 production evidence for crops that were covered in 2010. Failure to submit this documentation may lead to a substantially reduced APH.

For more info, contact the county FSA office.

Partnerships – 15 heads, 30 hands, and 30 Legs Are Better than 1

By: Marlene Moon, Conservation District Administrator

They are often referred to as the four “C’s” of partnering: Communication, Coordination, Cooperation and Collaboration. In Montana there’s a renewed emphasis on partnering opportunities, especially with an eye on effective and frugal use of taxpayer dollars. Representatives of the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Montana Association of Conservation Districts, the Montana Association of Conservation District Employees Organization, Missouri River Conservation Districts Council, Montana Salinity Control Association, Montana Watershed Coordination Council, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the Yellowstone River Conservation District Council recently put their heads together to discuss how to better inform Montana taxpayers of the value of conserving the state’s natural resources. To some Montanans the term “natural resources” relates to oil, gas and coal deposits. This group feels it needs to help more clearly define natural resources to include soil, air, water, plants and animals.

One of the first orders of business was to analyze the mission statements of each participating group and determine what the partnership’s common purpose is. Excerpts from each organization’s individual mission statement focus on that purpose:

- “Helping to ensure Montana’s land and water resources provide benefits for present and future generations”
- “To empower conservation districts in achieving their natural resource goals...”
- “To represent natural resource and environmental interests on the Missouri River...”
- “To improve long term productivity and quality of soil and water resources...”
- “To enhance conserve and protect natural resources...”
- “To provide science-based conservation assistance for the management and use of natural resources...”
- “To provide local leadership, assistance, and

guidance the wise use and conservation of the Yellowstone River Corridor’s natural resources...”

The accepted definition of collaboration provides the best explanation of the partnership’s intent: “A mutually beneficial and clearly defined relationship that involves people from different agencies or sectors of the community working together to achieve a common mission. The result is a shared endeavor for which participants commit as much to the ultimate mission as to the specific interest or goals of their own organization

Although “wordsmithing” as to the best definition is a continuing process, the group agreed the focus is to educate and inform Montanans about the value and benefits of conserving natural resources.

In the Montana partnership there are 15 committee members, each contributing by writing informative blogs for social media, scheduling face to face visits to local newspaper editors and their staffs and similar outreach and communication efforts. While some might argue “too many cooks spoil the soup” in this case each of the cooks agrees on the ingredients.

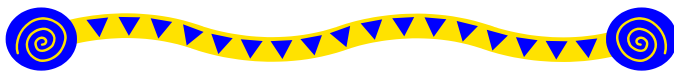
The benefits of this collaboration are clear – an informed and supportive audience, representing a broad range of stakeholders who are getting an important and unified message from a variety of organizations sharing a common mission. Getting the word out doesn’t necessarily require spending large amounts of stakeholder money, especially during tight economic times. In terms of simple numbers, 15 heads means 30 hands and 30 legs sharing the same tasks on the same path. Odds of success must be high.



Cooperation with Risk Management

Agency

The Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000 requires the Farm Service Agency (FSA) and the Risk Management Agency (RMA) to work together to improve program compliance and integrity of the Federal Crop Insurance Program. As a result of the passage of the 2000 Act, RMA and FSA are required to coordinate a plan to identify, address and reconcile discrepancies of all relevant producer-derived information, and to coordinate a monitoring program to include fact finding relative to allegations of program fraud, waste, and abuse. FSA will assist RMA and insurance providers in monitoring conditions throughout the growing season and conduct growing season inspections. All suspected cases of fraud, waste, and abuse concerning the Federal Crop Insurance Program will be referred to RMA. FSA will also assist RMA with auditing claims. Producers may also report suspected cases of fraud, waste, and abuse to their local FSA County Office, the RMA Office or OIG.



Commodity Loans

Commodity loans, also referred to as Marketing Assistance Loans, are available to producers who share in the risk of producing the crop. To be eligible, you must maintain beneficial interest in the crop through the time of application. Beneficial interest means retaining the ability to make decisions about the commodity, responsibility for all risk of loss or damage to the commodity, and title to the commodity. During the term of the loan, loss of beneficial interest is a violation of loan provisions. Violating provisions of a marketing assistance loan may trigger administrative actions, such as assessing liquidated damages, calling the loan and denial of future farm-stored loans. The most common violations are removing or disposing of a commodity being used as loan collateral without calling BEFORE you haul and providing an incorrect quantity certification.

Farm Storage Facility Loan Program

FSA's Farm Storage and Facility Loan (FSFL) Program provides low-interest financing for producers of eligible commodities to build or upgrade farm storage and handling facilities. The maximum principal amount of a loan through FSFL is \$500,000. Participants are required to provide a down payment of 15 percent, with Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) providing a loan for the remaining eighty five (85) percent of the net cost of the eligible storage facility and permanent drying and handling equipment. Loan terms of seven, ten, or twelve years are available depending on the amount of the loan.

Interest rates for each term rate may be different and are based on the rate which CCC borrows from the Treasury Department. Payments are available in the form of a partial disbursement and the remaining final disbursement. A partial disbursement of up to 50 percent of the total loan amount will be available, if desired, after a portion of the construction has been completed. The final disbursement will be made when all construction is completed.

An FSFL generally must be approved before the deliveries of any materials are accepted and before any site preparation or construction is begun. The following commodities are eligible for farm storage facility loans: corn, grain sorghum, soybeans, oats, wheat, barley, or minor oilseeds harvested as whole grain; corn, grain sorghum, wheat, oats, or barley harvested as other than whole grain; hay; renewable biomass; fruits (including nuts) and vegetables—cold storage facilities. Among other requirements, borrowers are responsible for obtaining annual multi-peril crop insurance or NAP coverage and all-peril insurance on the FSFL structure listing CCC as the loss payee. For more information, contact the county FSA office.





Montana FSA Notice to Current Newsletter Recipients

Non-active agriculture producers must "opt-in" to receive future newsletters

Effective March 1, 2011, the Montana Farm Service Agency has issued a new newsletter policy geared toward improving FSA newsletter delivery and efficiency to the individual farmers, ranchers and agriculture community. FSA newsletters will continue to be sent to active agriculture producers as determined by the county FSA offices. No action is needed for active producers unless your household or business is receiving duplicate newsletters in which case you should inform your local county FSA office. If you are not an "active" producer but are a landowner or are interested in receiving or continuing to receive a FSA newsletter, you must inform your local county office that you'd like to "Opt-in" and be added to the newsletter mailing list. In addition, you can choose to receive your newsletter electronically. Each newsletter not mailed saves the agency and taxpayer \$0.39. To request the electronic newsletter be emailed to you instead of receiving a newsletter through mail, please contact your county FSA office.

Request form for receiving FSA newsletters via e-mail

I _____ wish to receive Toole County FSA newsletter via email. My e-mail address is:
(Customer's name)

_____. I will inform the Toole County FSA office should my e-mail address change by sending my updated e-mail address to the designated county office employee via e-mail.

The designated FSA Toole County office employee is:

Rogene Halver, ext. 103
rogene.halver@mt.usda.gov

Important Dates to Remember:

April 15: CRP "General Signup 41" Ends
May 1: NAP Livestock Pull Off Date
May 14: Spring grazing on CRP acres ends
May 15: Beginning date of Primary Nesting Season
May 30: *CLOSED for Memorial Day*
June 1: 2011 DCP & 2011 ACRE Programs Signup Deadline
July 15: Acreage Reporting Deadline
July 15: 2010 ACRE Production Reporting Deadline
July 15: Final NAP Production Reports Due for 2010
July 15: Final date to file 2010 crop application for NAP Payment
July 4: *CLOSED for Independence Day*
July 29: SURE Sign-up Deadline for 2009 Crop Year
Continues: Continuous Conservation Reserve Program

***Toole County FSA Committee meetings are scheduled for the first Thursday of each month beginning at 9:00 A.M. at the FSA Office.**

Selected Interest Rates - April 2011

Farm Operating - Direct	2.75%
Farm Ownership - Direct	5.00%
Farm Ownership - Direct Down Payment, Beginning Farmer or Rancher	1.50%
Conservation Loan	5.00%
Emergency - Actual Loss	3.75%
Farm Storage Facility - 7-year	2.75%
Farm Storage Facility - 10-year	3.375%
Farm Storage Facility - 12-year	3.625%
Commodity Loans 1996-Present	1.25%

Special Accommodations:

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in any FSA programs should contact Robert Hermance at the Toole County FSA Office at

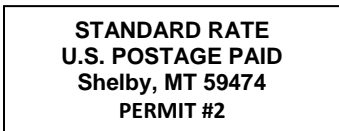
1-406-434-5234

or the

Federal Relay Service at

1-800-877-8339.

Toole County FSA
1125 Oilfield Ave
Shelby, MT 59474



Or Current Resident

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